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identity with the recurrent parent. This permits to accelerate the production of inbred maize lines having at least 90%, preferably at least 95%, more preferably at least 99% genetic identity with the recurrent parent, yet more preferably genetically identical to the recurrent parent, and further comprising the trait(s) introgressed from the donor parent. Such determination of genetic identity is based on molecular markers used in the laboratory-based techniques described above. Such molecular markers are for example those known in the art and described in Boppenmaier, et al., "Comparisons among strains of inbreds for RFLPs", Maize Genetics Cooperative Newsletter (1991) 65, pg. 90, or those available from the University of Missouri database and the Brookhaven laboratory database. The last backcross generation is then selfed to give pure breeding progeny for the gene(s) being transferred. The resulting plants have essentially all of the morphological and physiological characteristics of inbred maize line NP2174, in addition to the single gene trait(s) transferred to the inbred. Preferably, the resulting plants have all of the morphological and physiological characteristics of inbred maize line NP2174, in addition to the single gene trait(s) transferred to the inbred. The exact backcrossing protocol will depend on the trait being altered to determine an appropriate testing protocol. Although backcrossing methods are simplified when the trait being transferred is a dominant allele, a recessive allele may also be transferred. In this instance it may be necessary to introduce a test of the progeny to determine if the desired trait has been successfully transferred.

Please replace the last paragraph on page 25 with the following rewritten paragraph:

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Specific transgenic events introgressed into maize inbred line NP2174 can be obtained through the list of Petitions of Nonregulated Status Granted by APHIS as of 10-12-2000. For example, introgressed from glyphosate tolerant event GA21 (9709901p), glyphosate tolerant/Lepidopteran insect resistant event MON 802 (9631701p), Lepidopteran insect resistant event DBT418 (9629101p), male sterile event MS3 (9522801p), Lepidopteran insect resistant event Bt11 (9519501p), phosphinothrinicin tolerant event B16 (9514501p), Lepidopteran insect resistant event MON 80100 (9509301p), phosphinothrinicin tolerant events T14, T25 (9435701p), Lepidopteran insect resistant event 176 (9431901p).

Please replace the first full paragraph on page 29 with the following rewritten paragraph:

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8. (Amended) The maize plant, or parts thereof, according to claim 7, wherein the plant or parts thereof have been transformed so that its genetic material contains one or more transgenes operably linked to one or more regulatory elements.

9. (Amended) The maize plant according to claim 7, wherein said single gene transferred trait comprises a gene conferring upon said maize plant tolerance to a herbicide.

10. (Amended) The maize plant according to claim 9, wherein said herbicide is glyphosate, gluphosinate, a sulfonylurea or an imidazolinone herbicide, a hydroxyphenylpyruvate dioxygenase inhibitor or a protoporphyrinogen oxidase inhibitor.

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11. (Amended) The maize plant according to claim 7, wherein said single gene transferred trait comprises a gene conferring upon said maize plant insect resistance, disease resistance or virus resistance.

12. (Amended) The maize plant according to claim 11, wherein said gene conferring upon said maize plant insect resistance is a *Bacillus thuringiensis* Cry1Ab gene.

13. (Amended) The maize plant according to claim 12, further comprising a *bar* gene.

14. (Amended) The maize plant according to claim 12, wherein said Cry1Ab gene is introgressed into said maize plant from a maize line comprising a Bt-11 event or a 176 event.

15. (Amended) Seed of the plant according to claim 7.

16. (Amended) A tissue culture of regenerable cells of the maize plant according to claim 2, wherein the tissue regenerates plants capable of expressing all the morphological and physiological characteristics of the plant according to claim 2.